

RI Transportation *Digest*

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Rhode Island Department of Transportation Newsletter

RIDOT's Financial Management Division steps into the 21st century

By Allison Teixeira

Many changes are in the works in RIDOT's Acting Financial Management division. The new Chief Financial Officer, Dorothy Z. Pascale, CPA, is overseeing the implementation of a new self-managing database computer software system, Oracle. Since February, Pascale has been restructuring the division to better address the requirements of the new financial management system.

The Oracle system will automate all of RIDOT's transactions, which today are time-consuming administrative tasks. "Right now everything is done manually. Information is entered by hand onto long spreadsheets two to three times," says Pascale. "The Oracle system will be much more efficient because information is only entered once."

Oracle breaks down finances into several modules, and Pascale has reorganized the Financial Management division into teams

to address the responsibilities of each Oracle module. They include Purchasing, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Grants Management, and Inventory.

The Purchasing team, led by Stephanie Coccia, will be responsible for processing all purchase orders within RIDOT along

with the coordination of State purchasing requirements with the Department of Administration (DOA). Other members of the Purchasing team include Dawn Kennedy, Valerie Andreozzi, and John Brock. Two more positions will be added to the

See FINANCIAL MGT., page 3



TIME FOR IT TO COME DOWN: Governor Donald L. Carcieri addresses the press at the September 30 ceremonial start of demolition of the old Jamestown Bridge.

It's official - the Jamestown Bridge is coming down

Governor Donald L. Carcieri joined with officials from RIDOT and from the towns of North Kingstown, Jamestown and Newport, as well as representatives from Cashman Equipment on September 30, for a ceremony marking the beginning of demolition of the old Jamestown Bridge.

Senator Lincoln Chafee, who had secured \$8 million in funds for the demolition, said from Washington that he was anxious to see the demolition underway. "I am

See JAMESTOWN BRIDGE, page 10



THE NATIONAL AASHTO BRIDGE CONFERENCE, held in Newport in June, held a traditional Rhode Island Clambake, with lobsters and corn roasted outdoors over seaweed and hot stones. More photos, stories and comments, see pages 4-5.

From the Director's Office

As you probably know by now, we have finally succeeded in getting a new six-year transportation bill authorized by Congress and signed by the President. As a result, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation will receive \$1.08 billion dollars in federal funding over the next five years.

In fact, RIDOT did so well in the new bill, it will be a challenge for the state to provide the necessary 20 percent match. Recent funding levels have required an average of \$47 million in state match, but the new funding level will require an additional \$12 million in matching funds. Currently, one cent of the state gasoline tax continues to go to the General Fund, but even with that directed to transportation, we'll need additional funding to provide the match for the federal funds.

The new bill, called SAFETEA-LU for Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act - Legacy for Users, also features funds earmarked for specific projects. Some states have earmarked projects in the legislation that

their Departments of Transportation are not familiar with.

We worked closely with Rhode Island's Congressional delegation, and our earmarked funds are targeted for projects we have agreed upon. We are grateful to Representatives Langevin and Kennedy, and especially to Senators Chafee and Reed, who both sit on the Conference Committee that hammered out the differences in the Senate and House versions of the bill before the final version went to the President for his signature.

Some of the projects we have funded with GARVEE bonds are among those earmarked in the SAFETEA-LU bill, including Replacement of the Washington and the Sakonnet Bridges. The full list of earmarked projects is available on our website (<http://www.dot.state.ri.us>). When we decided to move ahead with the GARVEE bonds, I always thought we would get increased federal funds, but I didn't think we'd get this much more funding! Even with the additional funds, the need is great with the ever-growing

list of infrastructure improvements here in the Northeast.

But the reauthorization was not the only thing going on this summer. What a great conference the 2005 AASHTO Bridge Conference was in June in Newport! I can tell you that the hospitality shown to those who attended is still being talked about across the country. The success of the conference is a great testament to all the work performed by the committee and those who volunteered to help. See photos and story on the conference on pages 4-5.

We've all been concerned about our peers in the Gulf States who were affected by the recent devastating hurricanes. Through AASHTO, we have donated funds to the DOT families that have been affected, and stand ready to help with or without others states.

Have you noticed our roads are looking nicer? Litter patrols and grass cutting efforts have increased, and even the Governor has stopped calling to leave reminder messages on the night voice mailbox. The Highway and Bridge Maintenance crews have done a great job over the summer, and as this Digest goes to press, they're already thinking of snow!



KEEP EDDY MOVING: RIPTA and RIDOT announced a program to help commuters cope and reduce traffic congestion during critical phases of the Relocation of I-195. Anyone working, attending school or volunteering at organizations within one half-mile of the intersection of Eddy and Dudley Streets, is eligible for hefty bus fare discounts, carpool incentives or free bicycle care packages as part of the Keep Eddy Moving program. At the program announcement, left to right, were Providence Mayor David Cicilline, RIDOT Director James Capaldi, P.E., and Connie Howes, President & CEO of Women & Infants Hospital.

Director thanks staff for summer Food Bank donations

Through most of the summer, between July 12 and August 19, Governor and Mrs. Carcieri asked all state employees to contribute to a food drive to help prevent a shortage at the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. Employees were asked to bring in canned and non-perishable goods, or to contribute funds to help support the Food Bank.

RIDOT employees donated 320 lbs. of assorted food, as well as \$110 in cash donations to the Food Bank. RIDOT Fleet Operations staff delivered the collection to the Rhode Island Food Bank on Niantic Ave. in Providence.

In a message to employees, RIDOT Director James R. Capaldi, P.E. said, "I'd like to offer my thanks to all those RIDOT employees who made me proud with their contributions to this worthwhile cause!"

50th anniversary celebration planned for interstates

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) will join the rest of the nation on Thursday, June 29, 2006, to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Interstate. This milestone will recognize the impact the Dwight David Eisenhower Interstate and Defense Highway System has had on the transportation system we use everyday and simply take for granted.

RIDOT Chief Public Affairs Officer Dana Alexander Nolfie is part of a national team planning the celebrations, including publication of a commemorative coffee-table book showcasing Interstate highlights in each state; educational materials for schools; an interactive web site, www.interstate50th.org, which debuted on June 29, 2005; and reenactment of the 1919 cross-country military convoy from California to Washington, D.C. which first planted the idea of an Interstate Highway System in the mind of Dwight David

Eisenhower.

Every state will be encouraged to participate in the trek along I-80 and make the return trip Ike only could dream of making.



Rhode Island will celebrate locally as well with an event planned at the Eisenhower summer White House in Newport and a chance to make big news in little Rhody by creating the biggest interstate map in the world.

“With millions of motorists driving the 71 miles of Rhode Island interstate every year it is hard to imagine what life was like before it existed,” said Nolfie.

“Talk to your parents and grandparents and let them tell you how much life has

changed because of our interstate system. Life may have been simpler then, but it is so much easier now because of these roads.”

You can be part of the 50th Anniversary of the Interstate

Have a story or photo you want to share about work you did on an interstate project? Send your bit of history to Dana Alexander Nolfie in the Communications Department, Two Capitol Hill, Providence, room 239 or email it to dnolfie@dot.state.ri.us or call 222-1362 x4450.

Your photos and stories could be featured in upcoming Transportation Digests, celebratory displays, or in national publications. The 50th Anniversary of the Interstate is June 29, 2006 -- be a part of it!

Financial Management (Continued from Page 1)

Purchasing/Payable team to handle the increased workload.

The Accounts Payable team, led by John Napolitano, will process all vendor and miscellaneous payments and is the liaison between RIDOT and DOA for payment functions. Joanne Powe, Mary Giuliano, Sandra Nadeau, Francine Colucci, Angela Camparone, Juvita DaRosa, Lauren Soper and Jean Black are members of the Accounts Payable team.

Rod Machado heads up the Accounts Receivable team, which is responsible for all third party receivables including rents, leases and any other monies. Team members include Sherrie Olivieri and Ratana Chy.

Pascale says the Oracle Grants Management function is, “the core of the financial system.” Led by John Megrdichian, the Grants Management team monitors RIDOT funding sources, such as Federal Highway, the Freight Rail Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, Highway Safety, State Bond, Capital Bond, and the Gas Tax, and ensures that RIDOT is properly reimbursed. Team members include Simonne Picard, Laura Andrews, Tony Braga and Sharon Bazor.

Asked about the new system, John Megrdichian said, “For years, we’ve been dealing with a Highway Finance System that’s one step above punch cards. With the Oracle system, we’re getting functionality that we never had with the fossils we’ve been dealing with. When someone asks me a question, I’ll push a button and give them what they need instantaneously; not tell them “give me a few days!”

The Oracle Inventory module is managed by the RIDOT Highway & Bridge Maintenance Division in Warwick. Fran Chaille directs the Inventory team, which documents all materials and supplies used by that division. Team members include Bob Booth and Archie Renfrew. Two additional positions will be added to the inventory team to assist with this improved process.

Pascale said there are many challenges that come with the implementation of the new Financial Management system. The staff was increased by two new hires recently to assist with the complex accounting requirements of the system. Louise Anderson, Supervising Accountant, will work on RIDOT’s Fixed Asset system, with this module being added to the Financial Management system at a future date. Diane Duhaime, Principal Accounting Policy and Methods Analyst,

will work with the Implementation team on accounting procedures required for the new system.

Financial Management staff has been attending hands-on training in the Oracle system, while maintaining the current work flow during a particularly busy time of year (fiscal year close and a busy construction season). The staff have also been working extra hours as well as cooperating with restrictions on vacation time during the implementation phase.

“I give my staff a lot of credit for their hard work and dedication.” says Pascale. “They are very committed to the responsibilities required of them for this new system.”

Members of the Implementation team include Oracle Consultant and Project Leader Cheryl Barnard and five other Oracle consultants, as well as State employees Tom Lewandowski, Jimena Resto, Steven Corey and John Kelsall. The team assists with the issues of design, planning, problem solving and training relating to the Oracle system.

Training of RIDOT users not yet participating in the training began in September. The new Oracle Financial Management system is anticipated to go live in November.

2005 AASHTO Bridge Subcommittee

The AASHTO Subcommittee on Bridges and Structures held its Annual Meeting June 26-30 in Newport, with more than 550 registered attendees and over 100 guests. Forty-nine state Departments of Transportation were represented, along with the U.S. Coast Guard, the New York City DOT, AASHTO, FHWA, ACOE, and several universities. Transportation officials from the United Kingdom and from Ontario and Nova Scotia, Canada attended as did a consultant from Japan and bridge professionals from the United States and Canada.

Deputy Chief Engineer Kazem Farhoumand and Bridge Design Chief David Fish served as hosts for the event. Despina Metakos of RIDOT Traffic Design designed both the Marble House Ice Breaker and the Banquet at the Hyatt. The banquet was a clam-bake, prepared by the chef and staff of the Hyatt Regency. For the "Undersea Adventure," the interior of the hotel ballroom was completely transformed, with wall hangings, placement of lucite tables lit with lights that changed color every ten minutes, chair covers, and iced, lit centerpieces. Activities also included a Golf Tournament at the Newport National Golf Club.

The Conference meeting schedule included sessions on topics ranging from bridge and tunnel security to concrete design to culverts, as well as as a State Bridge Engineer Meeting, a Chairman's Lecture Series, and General Sessions.



ICE SCULPTURE of a sailboat, with the AASHTO Bridge Meeting logo, held shrimp and was a highlight of the buffet.

You made us all feel welcome

Thanks so much for making all of us feel welcome. Your sites are great and a tribute to the pride and professionalism you and your staff have. And of course, it was not expected, but welcomed that you made a personal effort with the hotel to get a care package for me in lieu of my having to leave early for medical reasons and missing the lobster fest. Thanks for all your caring and personal attention.....it was well above the call. Hopefully you've had an opportunity to catch up since the meeting.....job well done.

James D. Cooper, P.E.
Consultant and former FHWA Chief Bridge Engineer
Purcellville, VA

".....job well done"

James D. Cooper P.E.
Former FHWA Chief Bridge Engineer



BRIDGE ENGINEERS from 48 states attended the conference. Many of them met at the Chinese teahouse during the Marble House Ice Breaker for a photo.

Learned about what research interests AASHTO

Thanks for the presentations! I also want to thank you for encouraging that I attend the conference. I learned a lot about what interests AASHTO from a research point of view and a little bit about how the funding mechanisms work. I think ultimately it will help me to focus my research efforts better to reflect the needs of the DOT.

Christopher D.P. Baxter, Ph.D., P.E.
Assistant Professor
Marine Geomechanics Laboratory
Departments of Ocean/Civil and Environmental Engineering
University of Rhode Island

Committee for the AASHTO Bridge Conference

The Committee which planned and carried out the Conference included Kazem Farhoumand, Dave Fish, Despina Metakos, Carole D'Amico, Dan DiBiasio, Peggy Hebert, Faye McCraye, David Morgan, Bill Ricchio, Nell Rios, Eric Seabury, and Dick Snow.

Dick Snow was responsible for all finances, printing and organizing conference agenda, Faye McCraye and Peggy Hebert carried out the Guest Tours. Carole D'Amico handled site registration, and David Morgan handled registration payments. MIS and Matt Lang organized the laptops used at the conference.

Annual Meeting in Newport, Rhode Island



THE ELEGANT VERANDA of Marble House in Newport and its Chinese Teahouse were the setting for the AASHTO Ice Breaker.

RIDOT CONFERENCE VOLUNTEERS: Front row, left to right, Danielle D'Amico (Carole D'Amico's daughter), Carole D'Amico, Jennifer Farhoumand (Bridge Intern), Julie Seidler (Bridge Intern), Megan Leary (Road Design Intern), Coral Siligato, Beth Cerroni, Jessica Rodas (Bridge Intern), Mary Vittorio Bertrand, Despina Metakos, Bill Ricchio; back row, Andrew Nagel (Contracts & Specs Intern), Mike Savella, Rahmat Noorparvar, David D'Amico (son of Carole D'Amico), Dave Cluley, Rob Redman (Bridge Intern), Keith Gaulin, Chris Fasula (Bridge Intern), Alex Dolphin (Road Design Intern), Noah Shier (Bridge Intern), Tom Bushell, David Massenzio (Road Design Intern), Bob Pavia, David Morgan, Mark Felag, Eric Seabury, and Dan DiBiasio. Not pictured are Dick Snow, Peggy Hebert, Faye McCraye, Karen Smith, Andy Tahmassian, Bob Furah, Carol Stravato, Mary Gelardi, Georgette Chahine, Bob Faraj, Songhap Taing, Nell Rios, Mary Bertrand, Craig Hochman, Maria Kunhardt, Andrew Prezioso, and Iziarh Roberts.



A FROZEN ICE AQUARIUM was the centerpiece at every table at the "Undersea Adventure" banquet.



LEADING THE EFFORT to have a successful AASHTO Bridge Conference in Newport were RIDOT Deputy Chief Engineer Kazem Farhoumand, P.E., left, Managing Engineer RIDOT Bridge Design David Fish, P.E., center, and Despina Metakos, right, of RIDOT Traffic Design.

Your efforts were outstanding

I want to add my congratulations for your outstanding efforts in organizing and executing AASHTO Bridge 2005. In particular, I want to thank you for your personal interest in providing an excellent meeting room for the ASBI reception. It was also very thoughtful and considerate of you to send the beautiful flowers from your icebreaker reception on Sunday for our reception. Again, congratulations on a very successful meeting.

Cliff Freyermuth, Executive Director
American Segmental Bridge Institute
Phoenix, AZ

Had a great time

Had a great time. I know your staff did a tremendous amount of work in the background and I certainly appreciate all of their hard work.

Everything that I was involved in went very smoothly - the technical sessions, the video, audio, - a lot of work by a lot of people. A lot of things we take for granted, especially when everything goes so smoothly.

Julius F. J. Volgyi, Jr., P.E.
Assistant State Structure and Bridge Engineer
Virginia Department of Transportation



DONATE USED EYEGLASSES: Seen here with the Lions Club Donation Box are, left to right, Nancy Getek of RIDOT Legal Services and Vito Georgio of RIDOT Bridge Maintenance, both of IFPTE, Local 400, and Capitol Police Officers Maria Caranci and Dennis Gallagher, members of Local 2448, AFSCME Council 94.

300 pairs of eyeglasses collected

Due to the efforts of Vito Georgio, a RIDOT Bridge Safety Inspector and a Lions Club member, a Lion's Club International eyeglass donation box appeared earlier this year in the lobby of RIDOT headquarters. The Lions Clubs have been helping to bring sight to the world's blind since 1917. This year, the Lions Club has collected over 4,000 pairs of used eyeglasses in Rhode Island alone. The lenses are reground to match the prescription of a less fortunate person. The collection of eyeglasses is an ongoing process, which is greatly appreciated, and there is always need for more.

To date approximately 300 pairs of glasses have been collected. Two Capitol Police Officers involved in the effort, Dennis Gallagher and Maria Caranci, took it upon themselves to collect over 60 pair of glasses from those that had been abandoned in "Lost and Found collections at various state offices. Nancy Getek of RIDOT Legal Services regularly checks the box and delivers the glasses to Georgio, who delivers them to the Johnston Lions (Club), where he is a member.

Transportation Management Center (TMC) Pooled Fund Study Project

By Cynthia Levesque, TMC Manager

Transportation Management Centers (TMCs) across the country have a "people-driven" network. Thanks to the Federal Highway Administration, most states with TMCs (almost all of the country now) belong to a group called the "Transportation Management Center Pooled Fund Study Project." Annually, a group of people come together to plan for TMC improvements, identify issues related to the ITS technologies, and develop op-

erational procedures for system optimization.

RIDOT has been participating in this group for several years now and can attest to the fact that the sharing of ideas and the networking possibilities to achieve best practices for our TMC have helped our efforts to give you, the taxpayer, the motoring public, information systems that optimize our roadway system while keeping within budget.



TMC POOL FUND MEETING: Meeting at RIDOT in Providence in June were: Front Row (left to right): Mike Floberg (KS), Mia Sliver (MI), Jim McGee (NE), Mark Wilson (FL), Monica Kress (CA), Cynthia Levesque (RI), Ming-Shiun Lee (URS); Second Row: Doug Dembowski (WI), Manny Agah (AZ), Jessie Yung (FHWA), Tom Granda (FHWA), Jeff Benson (URS); Third Row: Doug Tomlinson (PA), John Bassett (NY), Jeff Galas (IL), Vinh Dang (WA) Fourth Row: Merrill Sharp (ID), Greg Jones (FHWA), Lisa Vieth (MO), Raj Ghaman (FHWA) Back Row: Nick Thompson (MN), Gene Donaldson (DE), Mark Demidovich (GA), Dave Kinnecom (UT).

This year, the Pooled Fund Study's planning's group came to RIDOT. During a two-day workshop, 13 potential project ideas and concepts were considered for pursuit in 2006. Many of the potential projects have a direct impact on motorists, and this is something which is being advanced on a national level. One of the group's key goals is to maximize real-time travel information using overhead dynamic message boards (RIDOT now has 15 overhead dynamic message boards across the state).

As technology advances, the cost of deployment is significantly reduced. The Pooled Fund Study Project meetings and exchanges with other states explore various TMC solutions in cost effective manners.



PRESENTATION SURPRISE: The two names leading the Career Award list in September were Director James R. Capaldi, P.E., and Chief Engineer Edmund T. Parker, Jr., each with 35 years of service. To make the presentation a surprise for the Director, and to personally present the award, Governor Donald L. Carcieri, right, attended the ceremony. Looking on are Deputy Director William “Chuck” Alves, and Trooper Jeffrey C. Coleman, who accompanied the Governor.



THERE'S A NEW LOGO for RIDOT Highway & Bridge Maintenance heavy duty trucks. Seeking a friendlier image and promoting pride in the state and its employees, Highway & Bridge Maintenance administration had a new truck logo designed by the Maintenance Sign Shop. This is the logo that you'll see on plows this winter. Above, Ken Toth from the RIDOT Highway & Bridge Maintenance Portsmouth Facility drives a truck displaying the new logo.

RIDOT surveys users on bike path warning lights

EAST BAY - State Department of Transportation employees braved the late July heat to learn if sensor-triggered warning lights at two intersections on the East Bay Bicycle Path are a help to cyclists and motorists.

The warning systems at Child Street at the bike path and Franklin Street at the bike path were installed last summer by Cross Alert Systems, a Rhode Island company, after a number of accidents. A sensor in the system detects bike path users approaching the intersection and triggers a flashing light alerting motorists.

DOT workers arrived one July morning to monitor what bicyclists and motorists do when they approach the intersections. They also asked bike path users to complete a survey to gauge their understanding of the traffic control devices.

“The signals seem to have some effect on the conflicts pedestrians experience at these intersections,” said DOT senior planner Steven Church.

Barrington resident Larry Trim agrees. Trim rides on the bike path regularly with his son Alex, 8. The signals give him peace of mind because Alex rides in front of him. Alex knows he must stop before crossing the intersections, as motorists have the right of way, but children sometimes forget to look both ways. Trim

“World-class bike trail system”

On RIDOT's web site, users can fill out a form to request a bike map or make comments. This note came in late July:

Thank you so much for putting time, money, and effort into your world-class bike trail system!

Jim Fuller
Somerville, MA

said the signals keep motorists alert.

“I strongly agree the motorists should look for pedestrians,” he said. “They should be aware.”

Apparently, the signals have had the desired effect.

“I'm noticing the motorists appear to be slowing,” said Church.

He said pedestrians, for the most part, obey the stop signs. Many bicyclists, however, come to a rolling, rather than a full stop. DOT will report its findings to the Federal Highway Administration, which provided \$60,000 in grant funding for the project.

Police Chief Thomas D. Gordon said he has not yet investigated whether there are fewer accidents at the two sites since the system was installed.

Each set of signals costs roughly \$15,000. Cross Alert Systems installed one pair on the South County Bike Path and one on the Coventry Greenway in addition to the two on the East Bay Bike Path in Warren. The signals are now catching on around the country, thanks in part to DOT's investment. The company was able to test and tweak its product in Rhode Island.

A solar panel powers the motion detector and signal. The company had to change the solar panel on Franklin Street because it was under a tree, so it wasn't getting enough light.

“We finally put a monster solar panel on that one,” said Cross Alert Systems president Ken Block. Orders are now rolling in from Massachusetts, Louisiana, Wyoming, Pennsylvania, New York and Virginia, he said.

July 28, 2005 story by Alyssa Kneller, reprinted with permission, The East Bay Newspapers' Warren Times.

Vincent “Chuck” Knox, husband of Nancy Capilli

Vincent “Chuck” Knox began his RIDOT Construction career in 1983 as an Engineering Aide. He was an Engineering Tech II when he passed away this past June. He loved his job, and this was demonstrated by his dedication to his work and his willingness to assist and help his peers with any task.



Vincent “Chuck” Knox

He had previously been a Teamster for 25 years, and he had a passion for the union at RIDOT. He was elected Union Representative and Steward for the Construction Section. He was appointed Local 400’s Chief Steward under two Presidents and served as delegate to the International Conventions in 1988, 1990, and 1992.

He loved his country and served proudly in the Korean War in the 1st Marine Division – “Charlie Company,” 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, the, “oldest and most decorated division in the U.S. Marine Corps.” He was a highly decorated soldier, and a Marine for life.

Chuck married Nancy Capilli, also of RIDOT Construction, in January 2004, and the couple had a happy 18 months together. He touched the lives of most everyone he came in contact with, and will be greatly missed by his many friends at RIDOT.

New hires and retirees

New hires this summer at RIDOT included Ruth Lawrence, Joseph T. Rosi, David E. Raposa, William A. Gammino III, David A. D’Ambra, Ryan Coutu, George E. Avedisian, Jr., and Tony Mawad, all to Construction; Gary P. Garzone and Danielle Etienne to Contract Administration, Suzan J. Connor and Sean E. Raymond to Design, Michael T. Dahlquist to Environmental, Louise M. Anderson and Diane A. Duhaime to Financial Management.

Also Christine A. Murphy, Jared M. Kelly, Peter A. Bedard, Nelson P. Spencer, Scott M. Phillips, Nicholas O. Carter, Lauren A. Elliott, Edward J. D’Errico, Thomas F. Peluso, Bernardino Colon Jr., Michael J. Spemulli, David J. Pono, Thomas J. Chace, Joshua L. Mitchell, Keith R. Roode, Joshua Parent, Ryan Coccia, Bernard F. Harrington Jr., Joseph A. King Jr., and Robert S. Sawyer, all to Highway & Bridge Maintenance; John E. Glynn, Grace J. Smith, Constance A. Collette, Valeria J. Bianco, and Natalie M. Robitaille, all to Real Estate, and Marilyn S. Perry to Transportation Support.

Retirees this summer included William Degnan of Financial Management, John J. Andreozzi and William DeCristofaro of Highway & Bridge Maintenance, Edward Kudlacik Jr. and Donna Scalzi of Materials.

Corrections

In the last edition, Transportation Digest incorrectly reported, in a headline, the total amount of funding that Senator Lincoln Chafee was able to secure for the demolition of the old Jamestown Bridge. The correct total is \$8 million, \$5 million in FY 04, and \$3 million in FY 05. The demolition work is underway.

The name of Carol Stravato, of RIDOT Bridge Design, was inadvertently left off the list of volunteers for the spring’s Daffodil Days. Carol worked hard in Bridge Design to help make the effort the success it was.



“SEEKING JUSTICE?” That’s how Mike Mitchell, an attorney with the RIDOT Office of Legal Counsel, answers a knock at his office door. Mitchell often rides his bike to work, left. However, after June 12, when Mitchell’s son Gabriel received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Mike’s alma mater, Ohio State University, the senior Mitchell decided to bicycle from Columbus, OH to Binghamton, NY, a distance of 650 “hot, wet, hilly miles.” Above is a photo of the Heron touring bike, resting at the the Corning Glass Museum, Corning, NY. The younger Mitchell returned to Rhode Island “as normal people do,” by automobile, to begin a summer internship with his father at the RIDOT Office of Legal Counsel. Gabriel Mitchell left for Israel, to join the Israeli Army, just after Labor Day.



IT WAS A BOY this time, right, for David Cluly of RIDOT Bridge Design and his wife Melanie. Dean Aaron Cluley was born July 29 at 11:11 am. He weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz., and was 20 inches long. Dean joins a big sister, Talia, at home in Warwick.

RIDOT Flu Clinics scheduled

The Wellness Company will provide flu shots for interested RIDOT employees in early November. To sign up for the no cost program, covered by the State medical insurance, contact Pam Moscarelli (222-6765, ext. 4897) for the Clinic at Highway & Bridge Maintenance in Warwick. It takes place Tuesday, November 1 from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the first floor at 360 Lincoln Avenue. Contact Cheryl Wilkes (222-2572, ext. 4614) for the clinic at Two Capitol Hill in Providence to be held Thursday, November 3 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in the Director's Conference Room.

PC Tool Tips from the MIS staff

This Tool Tip is from Beth Cerroni

I know how hard it is for some of us because of crowded office space, but when MIS comes in to fix your PC, we start with the basics. The problem could be something as simple as a network cable, and we try to get you back up and running as soon as possible. Often, the network and phone jacks are not accessible. Please take some time to move file cabinets, desks, etc. away from the jacks before we come down to your office.



Nancy Getek of RIDOT Legal Services, **Corresponding Secretary of the International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers Local 400, Rhode Island DOT Professional Employees Association, and Bob Moniz, Vice President and Chief Steward of Local 400,** were introduced to **Norman Y. Mineta, U.S. Secretary of Transportation,** during a **National Association of State Highway and Transportation Unions Conference** in May. They also met with the Rhode Island Congressional delegation.



Family and Friends

All American

Jaimaal Mumir, the son of RIDOT Survey Section's Dawud Mumir, achieved first-team NJCAA All-American with 1.91 meters in the High Jump, top spot in the nation as a first year student at CCRI.

BY THE SEA: Jacqueline, left, and Emily Levesque, above, granddaughters of TMC Manager Cynthia Levesque, enjoy Jamestown Harbor while visiting their grandparents.



RAINGEAR: Sharing his raingear with the TMC Manager, at right, is Rhode Island State Police Trooper Michael McGlynn, the son of Marie McGlynn of RIDOT Human Resources.

RI Transportation Digest

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Contributors to this edition include Beth Cerroni, Steve Church, Heidi Cote, Kazem Farhoumand, Nancy Getek, Cynthia Levesque, Despina Metakos, Dana Alexander Nolfie, Pat Piccoli, Bill Riccio, Elaine Ventua, and Cheryl Wilkes.

Jamestown Bridge (Continued from Page 1)

pleased that we are taking the first steps to remove this structure,” he said.

Carcieri said he had called for the demolition in his first State of the State address in 2002, adding, “I’m pleased to say that, by this time next year, the majority of this structure will be gone. This \$19.5 million transportation project will beautify this area and enhance the quality of life in our state.”

Preparation for the removal began immediately on both the bridge and in the immediate surrounding area. The initial work will include clearing, grading utilities and guardrail removal. A security fence will surround the land-based perimeter of the project. Motorists may experience intermittent lane closures on Route 138 in the vicinity of the bridge as the work area is configured to provide access to the bridge for construction equipment. Demolition of the bridge will take place during the 2006 construction season.

Cashman Equipment Corp, a Boston company that specializes in marine con-

struction, submitted the lowest of seven bids on the contract. The company is proposing to use low-grade explosives to take the bridge down a section at a time. The bridge sections, including the steel truss, will be dropped into Narragansett Bay, where they will be retrieved.

Most of the concrete will be dumped at three ocean sites to make artificial reefs. The 6,000 tons of steel will be awarded to Cashman as part of the contract.

The adjacent Jamestown-Verrazzano Bridge, which opened in 1992, will be closed for brief periods during the major demolition work for safety, said Edmund T. Parker Jr., RIDOT Chief Engineer.

Director’s column wins award

AASHTO awarded its Public Affairs Writing “CEO” Executive Skills Award to the RIDOT Communications Office for Director Capaldi’s Transportation Digest column, “From the Director’s Office. The presentation was made at the National Transportation Public Affairs Workshop (NTPAW), held in September in Delaware.

The Jamestown Bridge was opened to traffic in 1940, replacing a ferry between Jamestown and the North Kingstown shore.



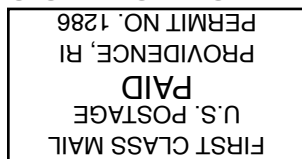
SERVICES IN DEMAND: Ed Golden, of RIDOT Highway & Bridge Maintenance’s Traffic Division Sign Shop, reports that the Sign Shop’s services were requested by the Rhode Island State Police earlier this year. Golden, along with Dan Gannon, lettered the State Police Wickford Facility’s Motorcycle Unit Trailer, designing it to match the lettering on the State Police cars, and adding the Motorcycle Unit logo. Now the trailer looks like it’s ready to fly!

Printed on recycled paper

James R. Capaldi, P.E.
Director



FIRST CLASS



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